

Physicians in Civilian Practice Have Increased Obligations.—Organized medicine, as represented by practitioners not attached to the armed forces, will have increasing responsibilities in the efforts to conserve the rights, not only of themselves, but of their military colleagues, because of activities which have been indicated. Therefore, under these conditions, battle must be waged against all forces that give indication of threats to well-established public health standards.

At Del Monte, commencing Sunday, May 3, 1942, the 71st Annual Session of the California Medical Association will begin a four day session. At that time problems, such as have been enumerated, and other pertinent phases of military, scientific and organized medicine will receive special consideration. If you who may have read these lines can arrange your schedules, you are urged to make an effort to be present. Through mutual counsel and endeavor much can be accomplished. In unity, and through unified action, there is strength. You are urged to give fullest cooperation!

**C. M. A. ANNUAL SESSION—DEL MONTE,
MAY 3-6, 1942**

Hotel Del Monte Will be Convention Headquarters.—The formal opening of the Seventy-first Annual Session of the California Medical Association will take place on Monday morning, May 4, 1942. The place of meeting will be the well known Hotel Del Monte, which has increased its facilities for such an organization as the California Medical Association, needing for its activities, at one and the same time, some fifteen meeting rooms of varying size. Responding to those needs, the Hotel Del Monte has erected an up-to-date six-unit convention pavilion which, in addition to other rooms, will go far in providing ample accommodations both comfortable and free from noise.

In previous issues mention was made of the decision of the C. M. A. Committee on Scientific Work and the Section Secretaries,—meeting in joint conference—to emphasize, as much as possible, topics concerned with military medicine and surgery. The latest knowledge in these important subjects, therefore, will be presented.

Four general meetings will be held: on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings, and Tuesday afternoon. Scientific Sections will meet only during the afternoons. The House of Delegates will convene on Monday evening, and hold a recessed meeting on Wednesday afternoon and evening. The Council will hold a daily conference.

On Sunday, meetings of affiliated organizations and officers will be held. Administrative members of California Physicians' Service will have a luncheon conference on Tuesday noon. Bulletin boards should be scanned for special announcements.

The April issue of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE will contain the "Pre-Convention Bul-

letin," with reports of officers and complete programs, brief abstracts of papers, and other information. Members are urged to look over its pages.

Let us keep in mind that the present emergencies show, more than ever, why members of the profession should get together and counsel with one another. Many new problems, related to organized and scientific medicine, are constantly coming to the front. Some are difficult to solve. Through exchanges of opinion, however, the best road to follow may indicate itself. Every physician may ask himself whether, this year, he should not make a special effort to attend the Seventy-first Annual Session, if only for one or two days. Think it over!

POSTGRADUATE CONFERENCES

Councilor District and County Conferences.

—Since December 7th, an increasing number of physicians have joined the Medical Corps of the United States Army and Navy; and the medical schools are operating through the twelve calendar months, in an effort to make available, for the armed forces, a larger number of medical men. The extra responsibilities in the care of workers in the essential industries, associated as they are with the routine supervision of citizens in civil life, add much to the burdens of members of the profession who remain in civil practice. As the days go by, more of these colleagues,—practically all under the age of 36 and probably all under the age of 45 who are physically fit,—apparently will be needed for Army and Navy service.

Officers in command of military hospitals and posts in California must be prepared for all emergencies. They are, therefore, reluctant to grant leaves of absence to staff members, even for postgraduate or refresher courses on military medicine, instituted by county medical societies.

Faculty members of the medical schools, too, not only have been obliged to assume the work of associates who have gone into military service, but to continue to do this throughout the entire calendar year.

Under these conditions, the C. M. A. Committee on Postgraduate Activities has found it difficult to command speakers for county society meetings even when subjects dealing with military medicine would be emphasized.

At Bakersfield, in Kern County, on Saturday and Sunday, March 7th and 8th, the Third Councilor District held its annual postgraduate conference.* A perusal of the report thereon and the program is suggested, since it may be possible for the State Association Postgraduate Committee to secure speakers for a limited number of such Councilor District Conferences.

There is a special value in refresher courses when held for several counties, because such occasions make for the promotion of good fellowship

* For program, see department of Committee on Postgraduate Activities, on page 153.

and better understanding, not only for members of the sponsoring component unit, but also for the adjacent and coöperating county medical societies. A councilor district esprit de corps is a valuable adjunct to organized and scientific medicine. Councilor district refresher courses are well worthy of consideration.

DEATH OF CHARLES A. DUKES, M.D.

On Saturday and Sunday, March 7th and 8th, at the 3rd Councilor District Postgraduate and Organization Conference in Bakersfield, Doctor Charles A. Dukes of Oakland, Vice President of the American Medical Association, member of the National Committee on Medical Preparedness and Chairman of the Advisory Committee of the Procurement and Assignment Service for the Ninth Corps area, was one of the guest speakers. Doctor Dukes, with his natural ease and charm, explained, to those present, various steps that were taken by the A. M. A., the C. M. A. and the component county medical societies, urging increased alertness on the part of the medical profession, and the work which only its members could carry on.

Returning to his duties in Oakland, he found himself somewhat indisposed, at first remaining home, and then going to the Merritt Hospital, where death came to him on the afternoon of Friday, March 13th.

For many years, Charles A. Dukes was an active worker for the interests of scientific and organized medicine. As an officer of the Alameda County and California Medical Associations (president in 1940), and in spite of periods of ill health that would have held back many others from taking on duties,—when reward could be little more than the reassuring self knowledge, that one's endeavors had been rendered to the best of personal ability,—he found it difficult to refuse to carry the extra burdens that were handed to him, because of his well-established reputation of conscientious service.

For years he was elected a delegate to the American Medical Association by his California colleagues, and his wise counsel and other qualities in the A. M. A. House of Delegates brought to him both personal and collective recognition. When war conditions were in the offing, the Trustees of the American Medical Association voted that he should be a member of the National Committee on Medical Preparedness. In California he was the only physician on the Governor's original Council on Defense. Subsequently, when the important department known as the Federal Procurement and Assignment Service was brought into being by President Roosevelt on October 30, 1941, the Hon. Paul V. McNutt, Federal Security Administrator, appointed Dr. Dukes as chairman of the Ninth Corps Area under the Federal Office of Defense, Health and Welfare Service,* and he

took on these additional obligations in a new governmental office adjacent to his own, in Oakland.

When the National Physicians' Committee for the Extension of Medical Service was organized several years ago, Doctor Dukes was elected a member of the Executive Board, representing the Pacific States. In the California Medical Association, one of his special interests was that of the C. M. A. Cancer Commission, he being its chairman.

In his professional work as a physician and surgeon, by ability and conscientious attention and charming approach, he endeared himself to many citizens who came under his care. Now that he is no longer with us, it will not be easy to find others to take up his many activities in equally efficient and generous manner. Doctor Dukes will be missed.

NINTH CORPS AREA PROCUREMENT AND ASSIGNMENT SERVICE

Henry S. Rogers Appointed.—The death of Doctor Charles A. Dukes left the Ninth Corps Area Procurement and Assignment Service without a head. Because applications for deferments were rapidly accumulating, with danger of assignment of physicians to line service instead of the Medical Corps of Army or Navy, prompt action was necessary.

In the emergency, the authorities (Office of Emergency Management of the "Office of Defense, Health and Welfare Services") through Hon. Paul V. McNutt, Director and Federal Security Administrator, appointed to succeed the late Doctor Dukes, the President of the California Medical Association, Henry S. Rogers, M. D., of Petaluma.

The work of the Ninth Corps Area Procurement and Assignment Service will be carried on under the supervision of Doctor Rogers, in Room 1938, Four Fifty Sutter Building, San Francisco. This memorandum is inserted for the information of those who may be interested, as the March issue of CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE goes to press.

Other State Association and Component County Society News.—Additional news concerning the activities and work of the California Medical Association and its component county medical societies is printed in this issue, commencing on page 148.

Keep Morale High: V points, each may sharpen for Victory:

- I. Do daily work better, each job more carefully.
- II. Keep personal affairs in order, keep physical possessions in shape.
- III. Keep healthy, avoid excesses.
- IV. Conserve; buy war bonds.
- V. Stop rumor and gossip, study for peace.

* See CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE, February, 1942, on page 84.